

MAX WIGRAM GALLERY

\\BACK GALLERY\\

Pavel Büchler

Acid & Nicotine

16th January – 2nd March 2013

Private view: Tuesday 15th January 2013

Max Wigram Gallery is delighted to announce the opening of Pavel Büchler's first show in the \\BACK GALLERY\\, a new expansion of the current exhibition space at 106 New Bond Street.

A distinguished artist and professor, Büchler recently received the prestigious Paul Hamlyn Foundation Award for Artists. Here we present for the first time a series of *Acid and Nicotine* drawings.

The drawings are made with car battery acid, which is processed using the heat from the artist's cigarette. Each carefully crafted image represents the hand of a cultural icon from recent literary and cinematic history. Referencing the fading iconography of the smoker in culture, the works also reflect the artist's long-term interest in process and materials.

In this selection, the artist's choices are revealing. We are presented with iconic personalities from 20th Century art theory and philosophy, which reflect Büchler's own influences and interests. Sartre, Barthes, Burroughs – these portraits carry a personal note, particularly in the work entitled *The Greatest Minds of My Generation*; but they also resonate more widely, to discuss ideas of art education and theory, and its broader interpretation by practitioners.

Pavel Büchler (b.1952 Prague, Czechoslovakia) is an artist, lecturer and writer, based in Manchester. Büchler's solo exhibitions include Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, St. Louis, USA (2011); Kunstparterre, Munich, Germany (2010); a large retrospective of his work at DOX, Prague (2010); and multiple solo presentations at Max Wigram Gallery, London, Tanya Leighton, Berlin and Annex14, Bern. Group exhibitions since 2011 include: Denver Museum of Contemporary Art; Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin; *Dark Matters*, The Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK; *Image Projected Until It Vanishes*, Museion, Bolzano, Italy. Büchler's work is part of many public and private collections, including Tate, London, UK; Kunstmuseum Bern, Bern, Switzerland; National Museum of Photography, Jindrichuv Hradec, Czech Republic; Museum of Contemporary Art, Tampere, Finland; Albertina, Vienna, Austria; Franklin Furnace Archive, MoMA, New York, US; Czech Museum of Fine Art, Prague, Czech Republic; CGAC, Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Pavel Büchler is the recipient of the

For further information, interviews, or images please contact Rebecca Gremmo on rebecca@maxwigram.com or 020 7495 4961.